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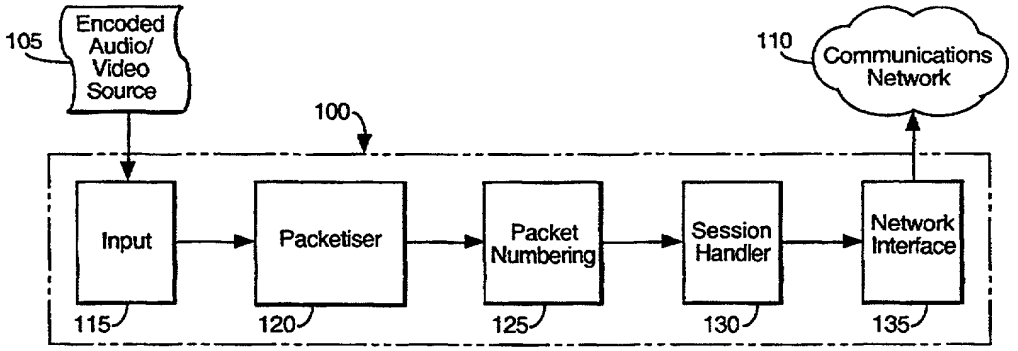

(57) Abstract

A data streaming apparatus (100) is provided for broadcasting data, encoded by a layered encoding algorithm, each layer of encoded data frames being conveyed within separate respective streams of data packets of a predetermined packet structure, including a packet numbering facility (125) to assign to each data packet a data sequence number indicating the correct order for subsequent decoding of encoded data conveyed by that packet. Corresponding client apparatus (200) is also provided to receive data packets having such data sequence numbers assigned to them, including a packet ordering facility (220) to place out–of–sequence packets into the correct order for output to a decoder.